

State Wide Ozone Steering Committee Update

June 16, 2008

There has been a great deal of activity for members of the Statewide Ozone Steering Committee.

STEERING COMMITTEE

At the May 29 Steering Committee meeting, the Presentation Subcommittee, chaired by Vivian Aucoin, the Statewide Measures/Early Action Subcommittee, chaired by Jim Hazlett and the Legislative Action/Clean Air Act Reform Subcommittee, chaired by Michael Vince gave their updates.

Vivian Aucoin reviewed the draft presentation and received comments and suggestions from members of the Committee. Tim Bergeron discussed information that the Early Actions Subcommittee had prepared and he received comments on what information needed to be included in the presentation. The goal is to have a “final” presentation for consideration by the next meeting. Michael Vince outlined the work of the CAA Reforms subcommittee and indicated that they are trying to have a package ready for the Committee by mid-July.

DEQ OUTREACH MEETINGS

In advance of taking the Steering Committee presentation on the road, DEQ has prepared a short presentation and package of information that it is bringing to local planning organizations. Below is a summary of activities to date:

On May 28, Lou Buatt and Jennifer Mouton met with Jefferson Parish President Aaron Broussard and his staff to give them information concerning the impacts of the new standard on the New Orleans MSA and to explain what they could expect. President Broussard was very interested and concerned. Lou and Jennifer also met with Mayor Ronnie Harris of Gretna. Mayor Harris asked questions about what early actions they could take and what DEQ was likely to do. He is a member of the New Orleans Regional Planning Commission Environmental Committee.

On May 29, Jennifer and Jean Kelly met with Jamie Setze, Federal Highway Commission, Jeff Roesel, New Orleans Regional Planning Commission, Rebecca Otte, New Orleans Regional Planning Commission, Dan Broussard and other staff from the Department of Transportation and Development to discuss an appearance in front of the NORPC and other issues. This meeting was informative and helped to establish a better relationship between the agencies.

On June 10, Jennifer, Lou, Michael Vince and Mike Algero appeared before the New Orleans Regional Planning Commission and gave a short presentation about the new standard, the Statewide Committee and what to expect. In attendance were council members, Parish Presidents, Mayors and others.

On June 11, Jennifer, Lou, Mike Algero and Michael Vince went to New Orleans and presented information at a two hour meeting of Greater New Orleans Inc. There were about 25 attendees present for this meeting.

On June 25, Lou and staff are scheduled to meet with the executive staff (the seven local mayors) of the Acadiana Municipal Planning Organization in Lafayette. DEQ may also present the information to the entire MPO in early July. We are trying to set up a presentation for the Lake Area Industry Alliance in Lake Charles and more presentations in New Orleans.